

# MYSORE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NINTH DAY.

*Saturday, 8th August 1959.*

The House met in the Assembly Hall, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore, at Thirty Minutes past Eight of the Clock.

MR. SPEAKER (SRI S. R. KANTHI, B.A., LL.B.) in the Chair.

## STARRED QUESTIONS

(to which oral answers were given)

### Appointment of Secretary to the Bangalore Race Club.

\*Q.—57. Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA (Nanjangud).—

Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they are aware that the Bangalore Race Club has appointed a full-time Secretary on a salary of Rs. 1,000 or more per month;

(b) whether the 'Siddaveerappa Committee' had not recommended that in view of the interests of the public involved, a Government Officer should invariably be appointed as Secretary;

(c) whether they are aware of a resolution passed by the General Body of the Race Club that there is no need for a full-time Secretary on a high salary;

(d) whether they are aware that the activities of the Club are restricted to about only three months in a year;

(e) the action they propose to take in the matter;

(f) whether they had instructed their nominees to take any particular stand when this question of the appointment of a Secretary came up before them?

A.—Sri T. MARIAPPA (Minister for Finance).—

(a) Yes.

(b) The Siddaveerappa Committee recommended that in view of the difficulty felt by the Club in finding a Secretary who can give satisfaction in the discharge of his duties, the rules may be amended to provide for Government lending, in consultation with the Committee, the services of one of its officers to be appointed as Secretary.

(c) On 9th March 1957 the General Body of the Club resolved that the post of Secretary be not filled by a full-time official.

(d) Yes.

(e) No action is proposed to be taken.

(f) No.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Reply to (b) states that in view of the difficulty felt by the Club in finding a Secretary, a full-time Government officer may be appointed. Is it not on account of the reasons I have given in my question and not in view of what has been stated in the answer?

Sri T. MARIAPPA.—I have quoted the very wordings of the Committee.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Why was this practice of appointing a Government officer as Secretary discontinued?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—There is no question of discontinuation. It is a question of availability of a person and we have to appoint in consultation with the Committee. We have no powers to force down a man upon them. The Race Club has a General Body. It said that there is no need to fill the post of Secretary by a full-time officer.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—I submit that the answer now given runs counter to the answer of the Minister for Finance in reply to my main question. If the General Body resolved that there is no need for one full-time Secretary, why did the Government appoint a full-time officer on Rs. 1,000?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—There was a resolution of the General Body to that effect. It is the General Body that has appointed the present Secretary.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—Is the Finance Minister aware that it is not the General Body that has appointed the new Secretary, but the Stewards. Was this resolution brought to the notice of the General Body at any time?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—I want notice.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—Are Government aware of the antecedents of the present Secretary?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—Government is fully aware of his antecedents.

**Sri M. RAMAPPA.**—May I know what is the scope for Government's interference in this matter.

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—It is very difficult to interfere in the affairs of a private club.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—Are Government aware that transactions worth lakhs and lakhs of rupees take place and public interest is involved in the matter?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—Government are fully aware of that.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—Have not Government interfered in the past when the unsatisfactory management of the club was brought to their notice?

Under what provision of law, did they interfere then?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—Even in the past, Government thought over the matter carefully, made suggestions to the Committee and by consultations certain modifications were made in the composition and structure of the Race Club. Otherwise, Government have not directly interfered at any time.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—Are Government aware that there is a feeling in the public mind that the withdrawal of the Government Secretary from the Race Club has led to a lot of mismanagement in the affairs of the Club.

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—Government have taken note of public opinion. We have often consulted the Race Club. There is no dissatisfaction whatsoever as alleged and there is no mismanagement either. We have our representatives both on the General Body.....

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—What are the means adopted by the Government to ascertain whether there is public dissatisfaction or not?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—Our representatives are there. They watch public trends. In fact my information is that there has been a lot of improvement in the management.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—Have the representatives of Government made any report in regard to the management of the affairs of this Club? Will the Government be pleased to place a copy of their report on the Table of the House?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—They have not submitted any report recently. Last year they sent a report.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—What was that report about?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—About the affairs of the Club.

**Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.**—Would the Government place a copy of that report on the Table of the House?

**Sri T. MARIAPPA.**—It is a confidential report. It cannot be made public.

Sri C. J. MUCKANNAPPA.—How can it be confidential?

Mr. SPEAKER.—If the Government says that it is confidential, I am helpless. In the House of Commons, if the Government says that it is not in public interest to disclose a document, there the matter ends. Neither the Members of the House nor the Speaker can compel the Ministers to make them public.

Sri C. J. MUCKANNAPPA.—In that case, Government can take shelter under this every time.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Government may do so. I am only quoting the procedure and convention in this regard.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—In answer to (d) Government admits that the affairs of the Club are restricted to about three months in an year. In (e) they have said that no action is proposed to be taken. May I know in what circumstances a full-time Secretary was appointed?

Sri T. MARIAPPA.—It is a private club. It manages its own affairs and it will be very difficult for Government to interfere in the affairs of a private club unless something goes radically wrong.

#### Government Nominees in the Bangalore Race Club.

\*Q—53. Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA (Nanjangud).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the names of the Government nominees as Stewards and Committee members in the Bangalore Race Club;

(b) the basis for this selection and whether all or any of them have had any experience or knowledge of racing?

(c) whether any of them were nominees during the last year and, if so, how many meetings they attended and also the number of meetings held;

(d) whether they are aware that the composition of the Committee and Stewards has given considerable dissatisfaction to the racing public and a sense of disquiet in regard to the administration of the Club?

A.—Sri T. MARIAPPA (Minister for Finance).—

(a)—

*Stewards.*

*Sriyuths—*

- 1 S. M. Shivaji Rao.
- 2 Jeenabhai Devidoss, President, Mysore Chamber of Commerce, Bangalore.
- 3 G. Mathias, I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Bangalore.
- 4 L. S. Venkaji Rao, M.L.A.

*Committee Members.*

*Sriyuths—*

- 1 G. N. Nagaraja Rao, I.A.S., Commissioner of Excise and Commercial Taxes, Bangalore.
- 2 K. Narayanaswamy, I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bangalore.

(b) The selection was made having regard to the experience of the persons concerned.

(c) Yes, 3 of them were nominee during the last year—

Number of Committee meetings held ...	9
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Number of Stewards meetings held ...	3
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Number of meetings attended by them was:	
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Committee Meetings	9, 1, 5
Stewards Meetings	3, 1, 1

(d) No.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—May I know what is the experience of every one of these members who have been nominated either as Stewards or as Committee members in regard to horses or racing?

Sri T. MARIAPPA.—It is very difficult for me to answer this question. Some of these members have been there even before I took charge of this portfolio and it is presumed that they know something of the affairs which is entrusted to them.